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- (2) In exceptional circumstances, for a single voyage outside the sea area or sea areas for which the ship is equipped.
- (c) All fishing vessels of 300 gross tons and upward are exempt from subpart W requirements applicable for carriage of VHF-DSC and MF-DSC equipment until one year after the USCG establishes GMDSS coast facilities for Sea Areas A1 and A2, if the following provisions are met:
 - (1) The ship is equipped with:
- (i) A VHF radiotelephone installation meeting the requirements of $\S 80.1101(c)(2)$.
- (ii) A MF or HF radiotelephone installation meeting the requirements of §80.1101(c)(3) and (4).
- (iii) A Category 1, 406.0-406.1 MHz EPIRB meeting the requirements of §80.1061;
- (iv) A NAVTEX receiver meeting the requirements of §80.1101(c)(1);
- (v) Survival craft equipment meeting the requirements of §80.1095;
- (vi) A Search and Rescue Transponder meeting the requirements of \$80.1101(c)(6); and
- (2) The ship remains within coverage of a VHF coast station and maintains a continuous watch on VHF Channel 16;
- (3) The vessel remains within coverage of an MF coast station and maintains a continuous watch on 2182 kHz and VHF Channel 16.
- [51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 68 FR 46975, Aug. 7, 2003]

§80.1073 Radio operator requirements for ship stations.

- (a) Ships must carry at least two persons holding GMDSS Radio Operator's Licenses as specified in §13.2 of this chapter for distress and safety radio-communications purposes. The GMDSS Radio Operator's License qualifies personnel as GMDSS radio operator for the purposes of operating GMDSS radio installation, including basic equipment adjustments as denoted in knowledge requirements specified in §13.21 of this chapter.
- (1) A qualified GMDSS radio operator must be designated to have primary responsibility for radiocommunications during distress incidents, except if the vessel operates exclusively within

twenty nautical miles of shore, in which case a qualified restricted radio operator may be so designated.

- (2) A second qualified GMDSS radio operator must be designated as backup for distress and safety radiocommunications, except if the vessel operates exclusively within twenty nautical miles of shore, in which case a qualified restricted GMDSS radio operator may be so designated.
- (b) A qualified GMDSS radio operator, and a qualified backup, as specified in paragraph (a) of this section must be:
- (1) Available to act as the dedicated radio operator in cases of distress as described in §80.1109(a);
- (2) Designated to perform as part of normal routine each of the applicable communications described in §80.1109(b);
- (3) Responsible for selecting HF DSC guard channels and receiving scheduled maritime safety information broadcasts;
- (4) Designated to perform communications described in §80.1109(c);
- (5) Responsible for ensuring that the watches required by \$80.1123 are properly maintained; and
- (6) Responsible for ensuring that the ship's navigation position is entered into all installed DSC equipment, either automatically through a connected or integral navigation receiver, or manually at least every four hours when the ship is underway.
- [51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986, as amended at 68 FR 46975, Aug. 7, 2003]

§80.1074 Radio maintenance personnel for at-sea maintenance.

- (a) Ships that elect the at-sea option for maintenance of GMDSS equipment (see §80.1105) must carry at least one person who qualifies as a GMDSS radio maintainer, as specified in paragraph (b) of this section, for the maintenance and repair of equipment specified in this subpart. This person may be, but need not be, the person designated as GMDSS radio operator as specified in §80.1073.
- (b) The following licenses qualify personnel as GMDSS radio maintainers to perform at-sea maintenance of equipment specified in this subpart. For the